

## **REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

### **I. Disposition of Claims**

Claims 4-18 and 21-40 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 21, and 40 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 4 and 21.

### **II. Objections**

Claims 4-18 and 21-39 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 4 and 21 have been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5-18 now depend, directly or indirectly, on allowable claim 4 and claims 22-39 now depend, directly or indirectly, on allowable claim 21. Thus, all claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

### **III. Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102**

Claims 1-3, 19-20, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,559,423 ("Harman").

Claims 1-3 and 19-20 have been cancelled by this response. Thus, this rejection is now moot with respect to claims 1-3 and 19-20. Further, claim 40 has been amended

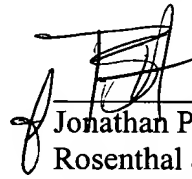
to include the limitations of allowable claim 4. Thus, claim 40 as amended, is patentable over Harman. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

#### IV. Concluding Remarks

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 02008.069001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/9/03

 #45,079  
Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986  
Rosenthal & Osha L.L.P.  
One Houston Center, Suite 2800  
1221 McKinney Street  
Houston, TX 77010  
Telephone: (713) 228-8600  
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778

58466\_1